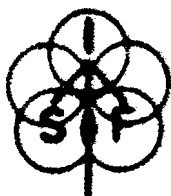


January 2003

Yours Fraternally

quarterly magazine



**The
International Spiritualist Federation**

Established in 1923



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Yours Fraternally

January 2003

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*The committee requests
than any matters members wish them to discuss should be in the form
of a signed letter posted to the General Secretary.*

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Fraternal Week

2nd – 9th August 2003

Eastbourne, East Sussex, England



*I.S.F's Fraternal Week is one of the principal
Spiritualist teaching weeks in the calendar.*

The week will feature many of the world's leading teachers and mediums and the programme (still being finalized) will cover a wide range of spiritual, psychic and mediumistic topics. There will be demonstrations of various types of mediumship in addition to Tutorial Groups and there will be ample opportunity to have private consultations with the mediums working on the week. This is all in addition of course to meeting fellow Spiritualists and those of like mind from all over the world.

The week will take place in the first class T & G Hotel in the lovely seaside town of Eastbourne on the south coast of England. The hotel offers every comfort and the food is excellent.

Secure your place on this much sought after teaching week !

Application forms available from
Ann Luck, 183 Ascot Crescent, Stevenage, Herts SG1 5SY
or website www.isfederation.org

For those wishing to arrive early or stay on after Congress the Hadleigh Hotel comes highly recommended . Details available from Ann Luck.

**Ann would like to remind all members to please remember to
make cheques payable to the ISF.**

We would like to advertise in many more member countries

If you have details of a paper or periodical published in your country that you think would be suitable for us to advertise in please contact **Robert Brown**, Publicity Officer
Address on inside front cover.

Editorial

Linda Ellis Moore

After many years of dedicated service to the ISF, I am sorry to report that Peter Watson has stepped down as Leader of our Healing Team. His wit and wisdom are unsurpassable, he and Midge are a truly spiritual couple in every sense of the word. Many of us have benefited personally from their acts of healing, and enjoyed the laughter and fun they bring to our gatherings and to the pages of YF and long may that continue.

I am working on this issue in a room full of boxes packed with my books and treasures with hardly space to type. We are moving house early in the new year, and sadly I will be unable to continue in my role as YF editor.

I have been moved to laughter and tears while reading your contributions, sometimes the power of your words has sent shivers down my spine. I have enjoyed designing and putting together every issue of 'YF'. I spend ages changing and tweaking the pages trying to fit in as many of your contributions as possible! I do hope you enjoy my last effort.

My thanks to Cath for proof reading this and all other issues, your excellent English and grammar have been essential. Many thanks to Lee for all the secretarial help.

And of course THANK YOU to everyone who has sent in contributions. There wouldn't be a 'YF' without YOUR words.

Please continue to support the ISF though the pages of our magazine.

The postal address remains the same, but all contributions by E-mail should be sent to theisf@btinternet.com until further notice, *E-mails to this address are received by The General Secretary*

I have made up pages for future issues using your contributions not yet published and I will pass them on to our new editor, however.....

We need a volunteer for the Editor's job !

If you have lots of enthusiasm for the ISF, are good at English (or like me have a friend who is) and can use your PC for the job, please contact the General Secretary as soon as possible, it's a very rewarding job with lots of contact with the members.

Presidents Page



We are all part of the collective consciousness interacting with each other, all of us able to contribute to the whole. The power of our thoughts are paramount to the world as we send out love, healing and harmony. This energy becomes an almost tangible force.

Visiting Holland to take a teaching week the first night proved to be quite an interesting experience. Two Polish spirit airmen woke me up to ask for help. They informed me they had been shot down as they took the flight path to bomb Germany; they had been imprisoned in a concentration camp, which was located nearby.

The next day, Sunday, I requested my host that we should hold a special service. We placed 50 candles in a circle and placed one beautiful red rose in the centre to signify the love we were sending out to all in need.

All of us collectively sent out prayers, music and thoughts, which produced a beam of light, into the light many spirit souls ascended, seen by many who were present.

Tears of joy ran down our faces as we felt the loving presence of all that was holy, there were indeed messengers of love and light attending.

We know this divine love is there for us all to access to help those incarnate and discarnate spirits.

We have a life time to understand our own spiritual essence, we know we are able to link with those who would serve man-kind - it is our privilege to have this knowledge. Perhaps we can remember to pray with thoughts of thanks for all the blessings we have in our lives, as sometimes the only time we pray is when things are going wrong.

Our weekend was a most loving experience where all who attended contributed to the whole, creating the collective consciousness of love, learning and healing, the power was almost tangible.

Thank you everyone who attended for making our first weekend so memorable.

Love and Blessings
Marjory

COMMITTEE NOTICE

ERRATUM

Ms June Dole, previous General Secretary requested that the Committee correct a statement in Mr Peter Watson's article in July 2002 YF, in which it was stated that the postal vote was "one of the most outstanding achievements of Lionel (Owen's) term of office".

Ms Dole points out that she proposed the postal voting system, accepted by 1994 Isle of Wight Congress and that her proposal was announced in "YF" in 1993.

We apologise for any inconvenience

THE WAY FORWARD FOR HEALING ?

.....YOUR COMMENTS

Peter Watson (UK)
ISF Healing Team Leader

When we asked that question we had in mind our own Healers in the U.K. as well as members from around the world. Hoping your comments would serve as a consensus of all engaged in Healing . We have not been disappointed in your response, and would like to thank all for their contributions. There are points on which most seem to be in agreement .

Whilst Healing is an innate gift, and not necessarily an intellectual study, the probationer should be taught basic Anatomy and Physiology , Specific areas of study to include. Chakras / Energy centres, Energy Fields and Auras. Meditation and attunement to the source of Spiritual Energy. Listening skills.

Added to these criteria subsequent points were also mentioned:

Mrs Doreen Haslam. New Zealand.

An understanding of fitness and wellness. The nature and causes of disease, and the process of degeneration. The ability to gain the cooperation of the patient. The difference in the practice procedures of contact and distant healing .

Eva & Matthias Guldenstein. Switzerland.

I think what healers need to learn is to find the inner balance within themselves, to acquire a sensible philosophy concerning health and healing. Always keep an open mind and constantly work on their personal development, getting rid of their own "rubbish" will make for a better channel .What to do with their hands,(where to put them and where not to, and how). A knowledge of the laws concerning healing in the country they are working in. A sensible information leaflet of what to expect and what not of a 'good healer'. The Swiss Association of Natural Healers requires their members to attend at least 20 hours of further education per annum in order to remain members of the Association.

Eileen Ledger . Spain.

I certainly feel a probationary period for healers is necessary. We follow the SNU procedure: 2 years as a trainee healer during which time the trainee has to complete a correspondence course on healing. and fill in a log book showing what they have done in the healing field during that time.

Gun-Brit Jacobsson . Sweden

The Maria School

Gothenburg's healing and spiritual development center
(established 1997)

There are a number of different healing educations in Sweden e.g. reikki healing. There's also healing development within certain spiritual associations. I'll describe the Maria school, which I'm responsible for, which is unique in Sweden for its way of working. The education/development is based on spiritual healing and cover a time of 2-3 years. The education has been especially designed in order to meet the society's demand for competence for this complementary therapy form.

The education (the Maria school) co-operates with the established educational system in our country. Well-educated and knowledgeable teachers within different areas share with us regularly their competence during the education. Studies in certain theoretical basic subjects and alternative treatments and medicine are included in the education.

Simultaneously with the theoretical studies, time is continuously spent for the concept healing and spiritual personal development. Also included in the education is healing work for people in need/ individuals one day per week at our Healing Centre. The student must practice healing on their own during the education and well document this. In order to obtain a pass as qualified healing/healing therapist, the whole education must be carried out.

The Maria school wants to develop and work for healing in a close human and global perspective. We also work closely with HCASH in England (the Home Counties Association of Spiritual Healers). The students have a probationary membership in HCASH during the education and we also co-operate with other spiritual healing centres in the world.

***We also included an Email address which could be of interest,
There are many which are worth exploring, including;***

<www.counselling.co.uk> ...British Association of Counselling.

<www.cancer.org> American Site Comprehensive info. on cancer

**<www.delralph.demon.co.uk> Many complimentary therapies
with addresses and summaries.**

<www.artheals.org/ > The Arts and Healing network

**<postbag@belmont-centre.co.uk> Clinical Hypnotherapy. treat-
ment and courses.**

<healing@cpdenton.freemove.co.uk > SNU Healing

CAN YOU HELP THE ISF?

**We are looking for a new editor for our quarterly magazine
'Yours Fraternally'**

**This magazine is part of the tradition of the Federation -
please help us to continue to unite our worldwide members!**

If you have computer skills and would like to find out more

Please contact

Cath Robertson

General Secretary

Email: theisf@btinternet.com

THE SPIRITUALIST (Words in Truth)

A Spiritualist, is it, you profess to be?
then answer these questions and we shall see.
Do you lean to God, or lean to man,
is your pleasure in giving, or to take all you can?
Do you pray for all, or only the few,
do you do unto others as you'd have done unto you?
When you meet up with gossip, do your ears turn away,
or prefer to listen and be the same as they?
Do you cling to someone because they're of use -
and don't care about others you know they abuse?
Whether you're right or wrong, do you go your own way,
or be guided by Spirit and pay heed to their say?
Spirit teaches on Love, but here is a fact,
your free will is yours, and up to you how you act.
When you sit in those circles for development,
do you give help to others or their gifts resent?
Are you jealous if another's progression is high -
do you think it's not fair and ask but why
should it not be me, I've waited so long?
Do you think that the law of God is wrong?
Are you true to yourself or merely pretend
are you really a Judas just feigning the friend?
Would you help those gifted to the top of the tree,
and could you honestly say, I don't mind it's not me?
Do you see the beauty in a Spiritual face,
or in envy, half turn from the Light of Grace?
To a confidence betrayed would you listen with glee
and be honoured to think that this person trusts me,
or would you think of the saying of words wise and true -
What they'll do to another, they'll do unto you?

This life is a schooling, it depends how you learn.
great gifts of the Spirit we all have to earn.
If you've awakened to truth, then you will know
that there's no doubt about it, you'll reap what you sow.
On the pathway of Light the desire is to teach,
and the best way is to practise all the good that you
preach.
In the religion of Love you must first understand,
if you cannot obey, then you cannot command.
Do you recognise truth when it stares in your face,
that all of creation in this world has a place?
If you act on the things that you know are forbidden,
does your consciousness, God, tell you nothing is hidden?
For when you pass through the vale your true self will be
shown,
And all that you've done to those you have known.
The Spiritualist Movement deserves only the best,
sorting the chaff from the wheat is the great Spirit test.
For many have learned and there's many agreed,
what they thought was a flower, just turned out a weed.
No-one can judge you for there are only TWO -
when the time comes for judgement - there's God and
there's YOU.
If these questions you can answer and truth is your aim,
May God bless you and help you, you are all that you
claim.
No apology is offered if these words offend,
For in the Service of TRUTH one CANNOT PRETEND.

Anon

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEARTFELT THANKS from the ISF Committee and all our members to our dear Peter and Midge Watson, who have lead the HEALING at our weeks for so many years, and who are now standing down from that role.

So many ISF members and friends have benefited from the wonderful work they do in service to God in this way, that words cannot express.

Sincere thanks also to Linda Moore, who is resigning from the role of YF editor after this issue. Linda has worked tirelessly over the last 5 years to see that our magazine is produced to her own high standards, and reaches our members worldwide.

Our thanks to all

Cath Robertson
General Secretary

Many Thanks

To the President, Derek Robinson and all those at
Wimbledon Christian Spiritualist Church
who worked hard to help make the
evening of spirit Communication
with Cath Robertson and Ann Burbedge
on 27 October a success!

£108 was raised for ISF funds,
which included a £25 donation from the Church

A great woman of spirit

Robert Brown
Ambassador ISF

I am sure readers would like to know that Lilia Logette, a wonderful worker for spirit, passed to the higher life recently.

Lilia was the founder of The Florida Society for Psychic Research, a centre that was run by her and assisted by Barbara Simons for 38 years. Lilia was responsible for inviting many well known mediums from abroad to Florida, amongst them Freda Fell, Di-valdo Franco, Peter Close and many of the Russian psychics working during the 'cold war.'

On my annual visit to the centre two years ago, Lilia stunned me by announcing that at the age of 89 she was selling the centre. After recovering from the shock, I replied that after all the years of service, she deserved a well earned retirement. Lilia was horrified, 'No, my dear, you misunderstand, we are selling so that we can buy a new centre!

And that is exactly what they did, at 90 years of age Lilia opened a new centre which is now run by Barbara Simons.

ISF members may well recall Lilia as one of the 'ladies with the hats' as each day she amazed us all by turning out in a different outfit, complete with a new hat at our congress in Rhode Island.

Lilia achieved so many things, she was an excellent speaker, a doctor of divinity and a first class healer. I owe the fact that I can walk these days to Lilia's healing.

Lilia was one of the 'Great women of Spirit.'

The New Florida centre continues to flourish under the directorship of Barbara Simons.

Dear All,

*Please send healing thoughts to Ida Myers who has been hospitalised again, it is unclear when Ida will be allowed home again, this message came from Loraine Brophy who is the Boston church's email contact. **Regards Robert.***

The International Spiritualist Federation

28th World Congress

will be held in

FINLAND

5-12 June 2004



**MESSAGE FROM YOUR
TREASURER
*Bill Parkins (UK)***

To help me with the work of handling the finances of the ISF may I please remind anyone paying monies by cheque that they make cheques payable to the "ISF" and NOT an individual person.

In the case of paying monies via electronic transfer to either the US Dollar Account or Euro Account PLEASE ensure that you send either to myself or in the case of Membership to Kay Rumens or Deposit/Payment for Congress/Fraternal Week to Ann Luck a written breakdown of any payment .

Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter

You may contact me by Email with any problems with payments.

Email William.Parkins@ntlworld.com



Please remember these friends in your prayers;

John Adolfson (Sweden), Greta & Sven-Bertil Andersson (Sweden), Marie Andersson (Sweden), Erich Bajina (Canada), Simon Bijster and family (UK), Frank Breakspear UK, Pat Campbell (UK), Ron Colley (UK), Bernard Ellis (UK), Nellie Green's family (UK), Moni and Heinz Gugger (Switzerland), Hayley aged 9 (UK), Tony Hudson (UK), Eileen Holmes (UK), Hans-Åke Jacobsson (Swe), Marjory Kite (UK), Agnete and Carl Lindstedt (Sweden), Michael (UK) , Simone Meulemeester (Belgium), Ida Myers (USA), Tat Norris (UK), Shirley Olive (UK), Rev Ann & Jerry Ozelberger (USA), Eileen Roberts (UK) Kay Rumens (UK), Judith Seaman (Spain), Jean Shilton (UK), Barbara Thurman (USA), Peter Watson (UK), Pat Wilkinson (CI).

Helen Dorsch Zemeckas

passed into the next world on June 28, 2002.

Her bright and energetic outlook on life was an example for us all. She lived her life as many only talk about. Helen embraced life at every turn. She was open to new adventures, new friends and new studies. Her life was dedicated to service with foundation in Spiritualism.

Her passing was a true example of how she lived. She embraced the experience with grace and dignity. As she moved into the process, her guides and teacher and all of her loved ones were present and waiting with open arms.

Her light is missed, but I know her light is shining in full radiance on the other side.

Sandra Kuiper

Hautpré January 2003

Dear All of You,

In October's Issue I told you about our three new Liaison Officers, Marie Andersson, Erich Bajina and John Mason, (of Sweden, Canada and South Africa respectively). Now, in this New Year edition, I have the great pleasure of introducing you to two more! They are Linda Chiles, of Phoenix, Arizona, and Isabell Duchesne of Bruxelles in Belgium.

Linda has been an ISF member since 1998, and the Congress in Canada was already the second she had attended. You will remember who she is when I tell you she was the vivacious brunette in charge of the Tombola, and who will ever forget the way she distributed the prizes at the end of the Friday concert?! It rounded off the evening with the fun and laughter which she seems to radiate so effortlessly.

Isabelle Duchesne is a more recent member, but is fired with such enthusiasm that we were forced to recognize her deep sense of commitment. I had already heard about her from our then Liaison Officer for Belgium, Ann Luck. When Ann had had to move back to the U.K. she had recommended Isabelle as her replacement. It was only later that we had the opportunity of meeting her, and consultation with those members of the committee present at the ISF Weekend at Stansted last November confirmed our choice with their approval.

The most important asset a Liaison Officer needs to possess is the gift of communication! This is essential! They become the links that hold together the threads which make up the fabric of our association. And here I would like to pay tribute to June Dole, ISF General Secretary in the early '90s, who first introduced the idea of establishing Liaison Officers.

For some odd reason, it was rejected to begin with! But the lady was not for turning, and she persevered!! At the Congress of '92 in Torbay UK, she named her first LOs, and since then they have never ceased to gain in number and significance.

Here in France I am delighted to report that Jean-Marie Codron, (who was the French delegate to our Congress in Canada), has just been elected President of our association in Paris! He is already promoting the ISF with enthusiasm, and looking for ways of integrating more fully our Parisian members with those of the Federation.

All my warmest and most heartfelt wishes to you all for Peace, Health and Happiness throughout the coming year. And love, as always.

Eleanor

The Whomerley Spiritual Church & Centre
Spring Drive, Broadwater Crescent, Stevenage, Herts , UK
Tel: 01438 741764

Present
Double Demonstration Of Clairvoyance
With
Marjory Kite President ISF
&
Bill Parkins
on
15th March 2003
at 7.30pm

Cost £2.50 (Members £2.00)
(In Aid of the ISF Teaching Fund)

FRATERNAL GREETINGS

Isabelle Duchene (Belgium)

Dear Hearts

I once again will express my deepest gratitude for having such a nice weekend with each of you. I am trying to say what words can't . Doors are opened and opportunities are given to all and each one of you. Thank you also for the organisation in this wonderful place. While I was travelling home back to Belgium, I thought one thing. We are all united in spirit as well as in the flesh. I love you all most profoundly and send you all light and blessings.

I enjoyed the November weekend so much I have written an nice article for the magazine here we go:

Beloved friends. Beloved Spirit. When people come together there is joy. When spirit come together there is love. When spiritual people come together there is victory. Those things were present on the November meeting at Stansted Hall.

Living in Belgium is living without the opportunity to go to services. Because it doesn't exist here and it is forbidden. For 20 years I have been working on my own for spirit with them as my engine. Doors have been opened and I would like to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who made this weekend a huge success. Spirit nudges me to continue to go on with working and I am pleased to let you know I am the new Liaison officer for Belgium.

Please open the hearts of everybody who you meet. When spirit is near miracles do happen and the highway is wide open.

I would like to share a nice tool with you:-

How to create your prosperity box.

Take a nice box one you can close (shoebox, wooden box).

Make it pretty on the top then you sign a red P (P = prosperity).

Inside you put a nice article you love, that is the symbol for you what prosperity means for you. Put in some money together with

your wishes and goals you would like to achieve in one week (write in red). After a while you may spend the money from the box on yourself and give some of it to someone else to create a new box. Ask spirit for everything, the divine spark in you is prosperity. Every time prosperity comes to you in a certain way be aware and thank spirit for it. Having enough water is also prosperity, clothing, house, shelter... remember all those things, it is not only money! *Money is love in action.*

Dears it works, and please have faith and trust and say it is so, confirm it and the cosmic realms will do it when requested with the heart.

Happy creating...to all of you.

With my best wishes for Christmas and a happy new year to everybody.

Heal the world make it a better place for you and for me and the entire human race..

PRAYER

Our Father who is throughout the universe

Let your name be set apart

Let your kingdom counsel and advice come

Let your desire be as in the universe also on earth

Give us bread for our necessities this day

And free us from our offences as also we have freed
our offenders

Do not let us enter our worldliness

but set us free from error

For belongs to you the kingdom power and song throughout all
ages we seal this prayer in faith trust and truth

Amen

love and light Isabelle

*Healing thoughts will be sent for all members of the ISF during
my January healing ...*

The Mystery

received during meditation

By Lionel Owen (USA)

The colours were amazing! Purple, pale-blue and yellow. They hung like a cloud all around me – I was aware of nothing but colour.

No form, no shape, no edges, no delineation whatsoever.

I should have been completely disoriented because there was nothing familiar or re-assuring in this scene. On the contrary, I was strangely comforted and at peace with myself, somehow I KNEW this was right, this was how it was meant to be. In the colours I knew I was at home, that here in this amorphous multi-coloured cloud was everything I would ever need.

I knew this was the moment for which my spirit had ached since time forgotten.

Somehow I knew I was on the threshold of some immense discovery, as though this moment would be the culmination of my earthly purpose. Moment did I say? Although it was in reality only a moment it seemed to last for an eternity. I was lost in this eternal moment – the moment in which I knew I was really going to find it: I was going to find that point of unison that blends the seen and unseen universes. The point I had searched long years and unsuccessfully for in the outer world.

Expecting a blinding flash of revelation as with Paul on the road to Damascus, I was wrong. No blinding flash, just unutterable peace and tranquility with the certainty that in this formless world of colour was all I needed to know. All I had to do was surrender myself, lose myself in the cloud and everything would be revealed. I had no doubts, no fears; no thoughts at all! It was as though I was all existence and no existence simultaneously. My brain, my heart, my soul were all one with everything there is. I knew that separation is an illusion.

Humanity seeks to impose divisions. It examines each aspect of life separately and in detail, not moving to the next compartment until this one reveals all it can, thinking thereby to understand the mystery. Now, in this transcendental moment, I finally understood that only by becoming totally unaware of myself and surrendering to the immensity and majesty of the whole could I finally begin to understand the mystery.

The mystery is beyond the finite and reaching the heart of it is so simple. Why oh why must we complicate everything. Surrender conscious thought, allow your brain, heart and soul to become one and FEEL, don't think. In the companionable emptiness of your inner peace, there will you find your answers.

#

Using the Light of the Spirit

As a worldwide organisation we should be in a unique position to use thought and the light of the Spirit to help bring about changes in the world.

Every evening at 10 pm local time every member, and as many of our friends as possible, are invited to join together and sit quietly for just ten minutes and imagine pure white light surrounding

IRAQ

We pray that there may be peace upon our beloved Earth.

Fraternal Weekend 2002

By Pat Campbell (UK)

I have just come through a terrifying ordeal -
Organising our November 2002 Fraternal Weekend at Stansted Hall!

When our President Marjory asked me to undertake this work I felt excited but very apprehensive, for Marjory had done this work for many years and I did not want to let her or the I.S.F. down. I asked our "Committee in Spirit" for guidance and support and I got it! Since coming home I have not stopped thanking them.

I wish now to say a big "Thank You" to all who came and joined the happy weekend we had together. The love was evident from the moment we started, the hugs, the joy of meeting old friends and of course meeting new ones was wonderful to see. The looks of wonder and, in one or two cases, almost ecstasy at the heights reached in the trance classes.

A big "Thank You" to Ann Luck our Accommodation Hostess with whom I liaised from the start.

A "Thank You" to all the tutors and people who so kindly helped in so many ways throughout the weekend and finally to Marjory who gave me the responsibility of organising the weekend. I know how much the I.S.F. means to Marjory. It is her 'baby' which she nurtures with love and longs to see grow. I and many members also have this love and I believe it was clearly shown by all who joined with us for this very successful weekend.

I now look forward to seeing many of my old and new friends at Eastbourne in August 2003 and at our next Fraternal Weekend at Stansted in December 2003. It may be a little near Christmas but let's make it our first Christmas Party and a hard working weekend! *God bless you all!*

NEWS FROM SWEDEN

Göteborg 25 October 2002

Hello Linda and Friends

I live in Göteborg - a very popular University town - where there are a lot of activities.

Among them, there are 3 spiritual societies. The "SSG", established 60 years ago! Two Worlds "Förbundet Två Världar", which this year had its 50th anniversary! And Vännerna, where I met and started 10 years ago. As an ISF member in 1995, I have appreciated the meetings not to forget the YF journal. Societies outside Göteborg; we have "Spiran" in Stenungsund, "Oceanen" in Karlstad, where our Ambassador Mervyn Johnson is a well known teacher. In Stockholm, Örebro and Malmö, there are also a lot of activities. As here in Göteborg, with demonstrations, seminars and healing. We hope for more understanding from the societies about healing aspects.

October 31, there will be an all-day event with Gunbritt Jacobsson, the founder of the "Maria School for Healing and Spiritual Development", and other tutors and lecturers in Mölnlycke, a village outside Göteborg.

I have been in one of Gunbritt's development circles for many years and trying to get as much insight as I can.

Here in Sweden, we do have some very good mediums. But talking about Spiritualism amongst people NOT knowing, you can be overlooked as a "mad" person. Even if we have contributed with Emanuel Swedenborg long ago!

Dear Linda and Friends, I shall end this letter with my best wishes for "even more ISF friends" and all the best!

In love and light,

Yours

Marie Andersson

(LO for Sweden)

ALONE on a GUIDED TOUR - part II

Maria Jacks (Germany)

I think it was my second or third day on New Zealand's South Island – now completely alone. I had rented a bicycle to explore the magnificent surroundings of an area called Abel Tasman in the north of the South Island. In the afternoon, I spent a few hours on one of those gorgeous white beaches by the turquoise-green and blue Tasman Sea. There were very few people on the beach; it was the beginning of autumn. I noticed a nice looking elderly couple nearby, and when I left the beach, I pushed my bike past them. The man looked up at me. With a twinkle in his blue eyes and no further introduction, he asked me in a very straightforward way: "Where are you from?" "From Germany" I replied and we started chatting.

They were Max and Margaret Luisetti from Rangiora near Christchurch, which is the South Island's biggest city. They were spending a holiday in a relative's house, high up above the sea with a beautiful view – which I was to experience later.

Max asked me: "Where are you going?" "Further south, down the West Coast, otherwise I haven't got a clue" I answered. Well that got him going. He got out a piece of paper and a pen, and handed them to me. An inscription on the pen read: *Luisetti Seeds, we think our seeds are best on earth.* I read it and thought of a friend back home being into seeds himself and wondered whether he would agree with this! So I just went: "Huh" under my breath. Hard luck - Max noticed it and mimicked me but quite a bit louder. That did it – I burst out laughing.

I do not know if it was then or later that I received a message: *You are going to become real good friends.* – Well, that is exactly what happened.

They had handed me the piece of paper and the pen to write down all the places I should go and see while on the South Island. And they certainly planted the seeds for an outstandingly beautiful journey around the island, including breathtaking, remote places I would never have discovered without them.

They invited me for a drink and together we walked up to the house with this beautiful view. They then told me to come and see them in their holiday house at Lake Tekapo over Easter – which I did. As I said, we became good friends and I therefore still went to see them another time when I was on my way back up north on the East Coast of the South Island. This time I visited them at their home in Rangiora.

It was then that Max, being not only into seeds but very much into plants as well, took me for a walk with his dog and told me a lot about plants along the way. Knowing very little about plants, I listened politely but did not remember much of what he said. At one point he stopped in front of a garden and pointed out a tulip tree, which was very rare and special. I vaguely remember that he talked about its blossoms being green and waxen. “HMMMM, very interesting” I replied, and forgot about it again straight away. He still added, that he had only seen this particular kind of tree once before in some lady’s garden when he was traveling somewhere in the country. He was still all excited about it and mentioned that he was so grateful when this lady invited him, a stranger, into her garden to have a better look that later on he sent her a postcard to thank her for her kindness.

When I left the Luisetti’s I headed north-west into the mountains to a thermal bath called Hanmer Springs. I felt this place was too crowded for my liking and carried on from there with the intention of going to Kaikoura about another three hour drive further north on the East Coast to do some whale watching. I drove through magnificent countryside, an un-spoilt wilderness which is so stunning that it is hard to describe. Like several times before

during this trip, I felt the desire to stay on a farm in this beautiful country, as I myself had lived many years on a farm in Africa. I had tried to organize a so-called farm stay several times while in New Zealand, but it never worked out.

I drive along happily through this lovely, mountainous countryside. The sun is shining but it's getting late. I drive past a narrow road to my right and suddenly, from the corner of my eye, I spot a tiny sign saying „Kaikoura Trail“. I step on my brakes, reverse and even though I doubt that this is the right way, I turn into that small road. I carry on driving and get deeper and deeper into this gorgeous wilderness, no signs of civilization, just overlooking a valley and colourful forests. And I know I am wrong. I have to get out of here again.

Just when I want to turn, I see an elderly lady by the roadside walking her small dog. I stop the car. She opens the co-driver's door to talk to me, and in jumps her dog, right on my lap. „*Beeline* her dog, she tells me later “always chooses good people”. She therefore invites me to her home. “Yes, you did choose the wrong turning” she tells me. “But how about driving me home, and coming in for a cup of tea”. I am delighted, accept her kind invitation, and in actual fact, the cup of tea turns into a glass of red wine. I am invited to stay for dinner and the night. As the nights are getting colder, I even find a hot water bottle in my bed later on that night. I spend an absolutely wonderful evening with Nan and her husband Roger in front of the fireplace. Again I get so spoilt by total strangers. By the way, while Nan shows me around her house she mentions that her surname is Macfarlane, and I suddenly remember and tell her that only about two hours ago while driving I had been thinking of a lady called Macfarlane that I had briefly met in Kenya two years previous. “That’s amazing“ Nan says.

But back to my arrival at Hawkswood, the Macfarlane's home. A dirt road through the woods leads us to a big compound, opening

into a park-like garden with a breathtaking view. In front of me is one of the most beautiful farms I have ever seen, overlooking the wild country and its already snowy mountains in the background. The farmhouse is one of those old colonial style houses with a porch all round. And what a garden, absolutely magnificent, with a duck pond and a bridge over it, lush and colourful vegetation, trees and flowers, a big green lawn – everything simply gorgeous. So Nan takes me on a walk to show me her pride and joy. Suddenly she stops in front of a tree and says: “This is a tulip tree, it is very rare and special. When it is in flower, the waxen blossoms turn green”. Somehow that rings a bell, and just when I try to figure out where and when I have heard this story before, Nan adds: “This tree is so special, that a few years ago there was a man, a stranger, who was so excited about this tree that I invited him in to have a closer look. He even wrote to me later on to thank me!”

I am flabbergasted: “Was his name Max Luisetti, by any chance?” “Yes” Nan exclaims, “That’s what he was called!” Now it is her turn to be flabbergasted.

When Nan returns to the house to prepare the sundowner, I am standing at the edge of the garden overlooking hundreds of sheep and the countryside beyond in the setting sun. – I am crying. I am so touched and overwhelmed, I cannot hold my tears back. I am standing there in awe and talk to my loved ones in the spirit world. I know they are behind this. In fact, Nan very much resembles my own mother who is in the spirit world.

I am also fascinated with this extraordinary way of making all the details fit. All the pieces of the puzzle are matching - it is ingenious. Here is my farm stay and what about my worries back home that I would be all by myself and feel lonely at the other end of the world? And now I am happy, simply happy! Does anybody still doubt Divine Guidance? I humbly thank my spiritual helpers and God.

Epilogue

When I had been with Max and Margaret in Rangiora, I met Margaret's sister Jo just briefly. She was down for a visit from the North Island. Jo also invited me to come and see her at her home in Tauranga at the Bay of Plenty when I would pass through on my way up north. Once with Jo in Tauranga I tell her the above story. Jo silently gets up to pick up a photo album and shows me a picture of the house at Hawkswood. It transpires that Jo happened to be with Max and Margaret on this particular trip when they were hiking around the Kaikoura area and spotted this rare tulip tree. She then took a photo of this lovely farmhouse. Jo is living about a two day trip away from this area across the Cook Strait on the Northern Island of New Zealand.

It was only when Jo and I met up in Tauranga, that we found out that both of us believe in spiritualism and have meanwhile become such good friends that we are on the phone from Germany to New Zealand several times a month. She even drove up to Auckland to spend a few days with me at the end of my trip, introduced me to more members of the Luisetti family and eventually drove me to the airport. Was I sad when I left this country? I did not want to leave. – But this unforgettable journey to New Zealand will always remain etched in my mind! #

NOTE AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

Dear Friends

It is with regret that I have to resign as your General Secretary with effect from Fraternal Week in Eastbourne August 2003. My dear husband is setting up a new business and he needs my time and secretarial skills to help him in the set up and running of this new venture. With the best interests of the Federation at heart, I have used this early opportunity to give notice to the President to ensure a smooth hand over and my successor can be assured of every assistance.

Cath Robertson



Congratulations



The President, Committee and
Members of the ISF extend congratulations to:

Ken Pretty and Elizabeth Kennedy
(President, Spiritualist Alliance (Auckland) Inc)

On the occasion of their wedding
in November 2002 in Auckland

Very best wishes to you both for your future happiness

NOTICE FOR SWEDISH MEMBERS ONLY

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004

Swedish members may pay 250 Kr (£15) for their subs for the next year into Marie Andersson's postgiro account number 1739430-5. Please pay before 1 March 2003. You may pay for more than one year if you wish.

Please send a postcard to Marie confirming you have paid—her address is at the back of this edition of "Yours Fraternally"

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